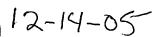
PATENT 450100-03261



N THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

: Shigeyoshi HIRASHIMA et al.

Serial No.

:

09/894,689

For

CONNECTION APPARATUS, CONNECTING METHOD,

AND STORAGE MEDIUM FOR STORING COMPUTER-READABLE PROGRAM HAVING CONNECTING

FUNCTIONS

Filed

June 27, 2001

Examiner

King Poon

Art Unit

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AMENDMENT UNDER RULE 116

Mail Stop AF
Commissioner for Patents
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Responsive to the Final Office Action which issued September 15, 2005, please consider the following amendment to the above-referenced application.

-1-